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13 January 1965

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE  
RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

13 January 1965

South Vietnam: The situation in Saigon remains calm following the week-end detente between the government and the military, but several antigovernment demonstrations have occurred in northern cities.

The Buddhist leadership is probably the primary force behind the renewed unrest in Hué, Da Nang and other northern urban centers, but other elements may be exploiting it for their own purposes. Reported calls for peace and neutrality suggest a possible Viet Cong hand in some of the agitation.

Local military commanders have thus far taken a permissive attitude toward the demonstrators, ostensibly in order to avoid further fanning of antigovernment sentiment. There are indications, however, that some of these officers are not wholly out of sympathy with the aims of the anti-Huong movement, or at least envisage using it to enhance their own positions.

In Saigon, Premier Huong is reported considering a modest cabinet reshuffle, aimed in part at bringing the armed forces into a closer association with the government. Huong is also planning to remove two ministers who have been targets of the Buddhists because of their association with the Diem regime.

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[The government is working on a draft law governing elections for a national assembly, in accordance with the promise contained in the joint communiqué issued over the week end that one would be convened soon. Present plans call for a 145-man assembly, with elections to be scheduled possibly as early as 21 March]

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NOTE

\*Panama: (As of 0500 EST) The National Guard has so far successfully contained demonstrations attempted by students. President Robles and Foreign Minister Eleta are trying to neutralize anti-US agitation by statements that Panama's political and economic interests will be defended in negotiations to be resumed in Washington shortly. Student elections scheduled for 13 January at the University of Panama could bring to a head the power struggle between competing Communist groups.

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